10: Bush--160. T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 609, 142, 171

"Upon arriving at the settlement, about fifty persons--men, women, and children--rushed from the log huts to meet us. They were nearly all Yakouts, and, though dressed much like the Tungusians, could be readily distinguished from the latter by the regularity of their features and the greater intelligence expressed in their countenances. They all have the prominent cheek-bones of the Tartar."

10: Bush--160-161 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 177, 191, 133

"The Yakouts inhabit that large extent of country lying in the interior west of the town of Okhotsk, and on the Lena River, where is a city called Yakoutsk, of about 15,000 inhabitants, the greater part of whom are Yakouts. This city was founded in the year 1632 by the Russians, and has ever since been one of the most prominent Russian towns in Eastern Siberia. It contains a number of good buildings, and is the [161] centre of a very large trade in furs, for which nearly all domestic articles are given in exchange. It is the principal emporium of this whole section, and is connected by government post-roads with Irkoutsk, the capital of Eastern Siberia; Colema, on or near the Arctic; Ajan and Okhostsk, and, by way of the latter, with all of Kamtchatka. Most of the Yakouts, from constant intercourse with the Russians, speak the Russian language, and have adopted their manners, customs, and religion."

10: Bush--161 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 291, 177

"Their dress is peculiar to themselves, being a mixture of that worn by the humbler Russians and the skin garments of the wilder tribes. This comprises a large gray cloth overcoat made after the Russian pattern, well-tanned buckskin, beautifully tanned without the fur, of neat design, and tastefully ornamented. The latter are made to fit the foot snugly, and at the toe arch over the foot like the bow of a skate. The legs are large and comfortable, except at the ankle, and reach to the knee, the tops folding down on the outside for several inches, and bordered with a wide band of black or colored cloth. A welt of this cloth is also sewed in all the seams. At the ankle two very long and broad strips of buckskin are fastened, to be woumd snugly around the leg, half way up to the knee, as a support. These give a very trim appearance to the boot. The Yakouts have small feet, and take especial pride in being well booted."

10: Bush--161 [2] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 157, 439, 492

"The Yakouts are a very quiet, inoffensive people, industrious, ingenious, and gifted with a natural business tact. They might, with propriety, be called the Yankees of Siberia. It is not uncommon to meet them in the most isolated regions with long trains of deer laden with trinkets of all kinds, which they peddle out to the nomadic tribes in exchange for pelts."

10: Bush--161-162 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 181, 609

"They are neat both with regard to person and habitations, more so than any other of the eastern tribes of Siberia, and are very domestically inclined. Horses and cows are their constant companions. Those whom we saw at the settlement near Tugur had been formerly in the employ of the Russian-American Fur Company in Ajan, and were afterward brought to this place by Captain Lindholm. Among them [162] were a number whom Swartz had previously known at Ajan, so our reception was most cordial."

10: Bush--162 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 177, 576, 272

"According to Russian custom, the samovar was immediately produced, and excellent hot tea served, but our hosts refused to partake until we had finished, notwithstanding oft-repeated requests on our part that they should do so."

10: Bush--164 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 273

"While making our final preparations to depart, all the inhabitants of the Yakout settlement assembled at our tent and commenced a systematic begging proceeding, each asking for some of every thing we had; but their preferences were for tea and alcohol, or vodki, as they called it. The former we had to refuse to them altogether, though the latter was liberally distributed to men, women, and children, as all imbibe, and not many minutes elapsed before the whole community were in a condition of delectable uncertainty and indifference. At length all was in readiness, and we once more mounted our deer and moved on our way amid the parting 'prostchis' of our tipsy friends."

10: Bush--173-174 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut-1-2
116, 342, 354

"The storehouses and stables about the settlement were ordinary log buildings, but the inhabited yourts more resembled mounds of clay on the exterior than dwellings. Solavzoff immediately conducted us to his yourt upon dismounting from our deer. We entered by a small leaning door lined with deerskins into an apartment about twenty feet square. After the usual plan of the Yakouts, the house was built of small split logs standing upon end instead of lying horizontally and sloping inward toward the top like the sides of a Mississippi River iron-clad. It was also roofed with split logs, supported by heavy posts, and the whole banked over on the outside with clay for warmth. Two small apertures a foot or two square, in each wall, admitted light. Some of these were glazed with fragments of glass obtained from whalers, but, for the most part, tranlucent fish-skins sewed together, or cakes of transparent ice, served as a substitute. These last are secured in place by a mixture of snow and water used as mortar, which freezes upon application, and remains perfectly solid during the long, cold winters. Ice windows will often last for months. The temperature inside the hut during the daytime is rarely warm enough to thaw them, and at night a stuffed deerskin pillow is thrust into each aperture as a protection from the hot breath of the numerous sleepers inside." [174]

The feature of a Yakout yourt is the chual, or fireplace. This stands in one corner, out from the walls of the apartment, facing diagonally across the room. The chimney and fireplace are all one, built of long light poles bound together with wisps in the proper shape, and then plastered over with several layers of clay, each layer being carefully

baked and hardened before a fresh one is applied. They are broad and concave, so that the heat and light are reflected to all parts of the room, and, besides, are so massive as to retain warmth for many hours."

10: Bush--174 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 342, 352

"Upon three sides of the room were ranged a single tier of bunks, serving as seats during the day, as well as beds at night. Those inseparables of a Russian habitation, the penates and samovar, attracted our attention at once upon entering, and gave the place an air of civilization;"

10: Bush--180 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 262

"We afterward learned that horse-meat is preferred by many of these natives [RCH: of northeastern Siberia] (by the Yakouts especially) to either beef or deermeat. By them the entrails are preferred to any other portion of the animal, and the head next."

10: Bush--230 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 181, 825, 231

"The Yakouts, notwithstanding their amiable and peaceful disppositions, are generally very cruel toward animals. Their favorite mode of killing a horse for food is to bind it down strongly with cords, when the breast is cut open, and then one of them, thrusting his arm into the cavity, kills the animal by compressing its heart with his hand. They claim that it gives the meat a better flavor."

10: Bush--299 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 234, 262

"The Yakouts are by far the most superior and numerous tribe of Eastern Siberia. They dwell in permanent abodes, and are very domestic in their tastes. Horses and cows are their constant companions, even sharing their houses with them. Both are highly esteemed for their flesh, and the milk of the latter figures largely in their bills of fare. They manufacture a kind of butter by boiling the milk, which is greatly used by the Russians, all over the country, as a substitute for table butter."

10: Bush--299 [2] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 306, 321, 531

"They possess considerable intelligence, and display much acuteness in bargaining, but are particularly remarkable for their ingenuity in manufacturing jewelry, trinkets, and metal-work of all kinds, and in carving ivory after the manner of the Chinese and Japanese. Some of their designs are very beautiful."

10: Bush--299[3] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 361

"The town of Yakoutsk, 1000 versts distant, was built by them some three hundred years ago, and contains about 6000 inhabitants, mostly of their tribe."

10: Bush--300 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 177, 756, 771,

"The Russians were a long time in conquering them, but, since that event, they have adopted the Russian language, customs, and religion, and are quite devout, though many of them still retain a lingering belief in shamanism."

10: Bush--300 [2] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 142

"They are of fair stature, and have more regular features than any of the other natives we had met. Their complexion is also generally lighter, and, in many of the women, is of a livid hue. This can not be owing to ill health, as a more robust class of beings I never beheld. (1)

1. Intercourse with the Russians has greatly improved the condition of the Yakouts, as will be seen by reference to a translation from S. Müller, published in 1761, in London, by Thomas Jeffries, entitled 'Voyages from Asia to America for completing the discoveries of the Northwest Coast of America.'"

10: Bush--300 [3] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 101, 174

"'Yakout' is a name given them by the Russians, for what reason I do not know. They formerly called themselves Zinzacha, or Zinzogotock, from one of their princes, and were composed of ten different subtribes, numbering altogether more than thirty thousand souls. They were originally united with the Bratti, a large tribe living in the neighborhood of Lake Baikal, but from these they subsequently seceded, and settled on the banks of the Lena."

10: Bush--300 [4] T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 771, 778, 782, 824

"Their religion was very similar to that of the other Siberian tribes, though they did not worship carved idols like the Tungusians. They offered sacrifices to one great invisible God, of whom each tribe had an image, with a stuffed bag for a body, surmounted by a huge hideous head. All trees they looked upon as sacred objects, and uncommonly fine ones they used to decorate with various trinkets."

10: Bush--300-301 T-3 (1865-67) 1871 Yakut
116, 764, 261

"On the death of a prince, Müller says, it [301] was their custom to sacrifice or bury alive with him his oldest servants or favorites, but other dead they sometimes left in the streets of Yakoutsk to be devoured by dogs. One of their original peculiarities they still retain--their voracious appetites. At feasts they used to strip themselves, in order that their stomachs might have full scope for expanding, and it was a frequent occurrence for some of them to die on the spot."